

Official Newsletter of the Founder Younger Boys and Pre-Senior Camps
Camp Miniwanca, Stony Lake, Michigan
The American Youth Foundation, 3930 Lindell Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri

NOVEMBER

1941

GREETINGS, FELLOW CAMPERS!

Even though many days have passed since we were enjoying the fun and fellowship at camp, I'm sure time cannot erase the memories of dips, Ideals, swims, nights at the shack, interest groups, tribal games, boating, nights' doings, Hillside, etc.

Have you made your fall check-up on your growth and development in fourfold living? I am sure each one of you decided at camp to do certain things this fall and winter which would help you physically, mentally, socially, and religiously. Don't forget to measure up to your decisions. We regret that nations have to prepare to fight, but may each of you have a daily program which will train and prepare you to live at your very best all the time. May you be your best in school, on the athletic field, at home, to your parents, and in service to your church and community.

I hope you will let your parents see THE TRAIL because I am sure they will enjoy reading about some of your experiences at camp. Look over the list of names on the enclosed roster of last summer's leaders and campers -- maybe you will want to drop some of them a Thanksgiving or Christmas greeting.

Thanksgiving! May you stop long enough each day to express your sincere thanks to God, the giver of all gifts, for a strong body, creative mind, social adaptability, and spiritual growth. The best way to enjoy Thanksgiving is to share something with someone less fortunate than yourself.

Several days ago I received a letter from a camper in which he said, "Only 323 days until camp opens -- see you next summer!" I'm hoping each one of you will be back with us in 1942. Drop me a line sometime -- I'll be glad to hear from you. My best wishes to each of you and your parents.

Sincerely,

Shorty

T. Aubrey Morse, Director Boys Camp



RESERVE PLACES NOW

Campers are already reserving places for next summer's camp. If the usual number of former campers return and the expected new boys register we will have all spaces taken long before camp time. Last year several boys applied too late and we were unable to accept them.

The Camp Savings Club is a splendid way to accumulate the cost of the camp fee. Your parents have already received details regarding this plan, together with a registration card. Be sure to fill out this card promptly and return it to us so that you will be sure of your place in camp next summer.

SEND IN THE NAMES OF NEW BOYS

If you know any boys of camp age who have never been to Miniwanca, why not send us their names and addresses? You will receive a \$10 credit on your camp fee for each new camper you succeed in getting to camp. Send us your list at once so that we can send them camp information. You may want to use the prospect blank sent to your parents last week along with the Camp Savings Club information.

NEW MOVIES OF LAST SUMMER'S CAMP

Remember when Mr. Swarthwout of Cleveland spent two days with us during camp taking colored moving pictures? The camp director kept Mr. Swarthwout busy climbing dunes, rushing from one interest group to another, down the steps for waterfront pictures, back up the steps for group pictures, and over to Michigan beach.

Many of you will enjoy seeing these movies if our staff members happen to visit your city or town before camp time next summer. The colors in the pictures are beautiful and nearly all the camp activities were taken, which makes the reels most entertaining and interesting. We also have about forty-five colored slides of the Boys Camp which are grand, and you'll enjoy seeing them too. If you don't see the pictures before camp, you have a lot to look forward to at some evening program next summer.

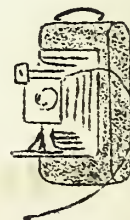
TWO NEW ORGANIZATIONS

were a part of the camp this past summer. A fire department, with a chief, assistant chief, shovel, axe, and hose departments, was put into operation. A fire drill was made in record time and brought the entire equipment to a fire in three minutes.

Unit councils were organized for the Darer and Doer units. In order that the campers might share in the planning of unit programs, each tent elected a representative to the council. From this group each unit council elected a president and a secretary. George Carver and Jere French were president and secretary of the Darer council, and Bill Seaton and Aubrey Morse, Jr., respectively, of the Doer unit.

ATTENTION, AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHERS!

Do you have any good shots of camp activities, particularly of riding the breakers in Lake Michigan, the aquatic meet, sailing on Stony, etc.? We are anxious to get some top-notch pictures for our 1942 folder, and we'd certainly appreciate it if you'd rush your best prints to us at once. Thanks a lot for your help!



HI THERE, ALL YOU PRE-SENIORS

Every year new and old campers go to Miniwanca. Next summer they will travel to the same Miniwanca that has lived on for years. During these days when all national leaders and all national organizations are calling for changes of program to give place to the needs of preparation for national defense, Miniwanca needs no change of program to make its contribution to the nation more effective. For, as Wadjopi says, Miniwanca anticipates every crisis in modern living.

Since The American Youth Foundation's camps teach the practicality and the efficient and the exhilarating joy of daily Christian living, they can contribute no greater aid to our country. Those of us who are fortunate enough to attend Miniwanca have come away better individuals for our having done so. A chosen few have been so inspired as to become modern disciples of Christ for service in a chaotic world. It is certain that the Miniwanca men who are now serving in the armed forces of the United States will do jobs that will be a credit to our country, to their fellow soldiers, and to themselves. As exemplars of simple living under extraordinary conditions they are the bases upon which to found the hope of a better world to come.

Those of you who will enter camp next summer have before you the real challenge of working out a sensible plan of world order to be put into practice after the necessary battles are fought. Acceptance of this challenge means that each of you will do his utmost to condition his mind and body for future service to mankind.

Groencastle, Indiana

BOB HARE
Pre-Senior Unit Director

GREETINGS, DOERS, EVERYWHERE!

In the face of an atmosphere of mass militarism all over the world, it's perhaps fitting for me as Doer Unit Director to send a message of cheery greeting to Miniwanca's many Younger Boy campers.

Unlike P.M. Knight's Darers, who couldn't seem to find their way in the dark (it's no wonder, they were trying to follow Shadow Nolting) the Doers seemed to shine most at night. The outstanding night's doings the boys pulled off was the bonfire on the lake with the boats gathering around. Bob Steiger defied the laws of nature by standing in the prow of his skiff to lead us in the good old songs. And watching the festivities from shore was Big George McGuire, who, together with Shirlee, said the effect was nothing short of brilliant.

Then there was that paper chase -- the only trouble being that Inspector Rice and I laid trails that were a bit too easy. As for the flashlight relay, we still haven't recovered from the record time turned in by those Creeks -- they certainly had the athletes! I'm told, too, that Jack Brunner gave a crackerjack, tearful interpretation of "I'll Never Smile Again" during a records session on Saturday night when I was in Ann Arbor on business.

Well, this could go on forever. Guess there's nothing we can do but think about all this fun -- and hope for next summer to hurry up.

Modford, Massachusetts

JOHN LOBINGIER
Doer Unit Director

HI, GANG

How are all you Potts, Bens, Cherries, and Sioux? Are you ready for another sham battle in the Black Forest? Would you like to roller skate on the tennis court again tonight? Boy, I would! That was lots of fun. Everything at camp was fun -- the swimming, boating, games, working on the Indian village, Ideals, tobogganing down Baldy, and gobs of other things. My mouth is watering right now wishing it had one of those beach supper steaks.

Are you fellows keeping in good physical shape for next summer? You will want to break your old records in the track and swimming meets. Hope you're going to Sunday School regularly too. And naturally you're making lots of new friends at home and at school. Don't forget to study those lessons either. I'm looking forward to next summer at camp -- hope to see all of you there.

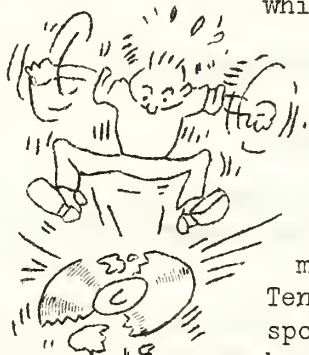
HAROLD, "P.M.", KNIGHT
Darer Unit Director

West Lafayette, Indiana

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR, GEORGE MCGUIRE,

reports that the trackmeets this year were the best he's ever known at Miniwanca. Exceptional weather for conditioning purposes and the fine interest in the track interest groups helped make the meets successful. Out of a possible eighteen records which could have been broken, ten were broken during that first track meet. In the first meet, Don Rice was high point man, having the highest personal average ever made in YB. Jack Lilly was high point man in the second meet.

WOW!
MORE
RECORDS
BROKEN



And now, from Alderson, W. Va., Big George speaks for himself: "Our Boys Camp for 1941 is over, but memories of those days will linger long in our thinking. Tennis, baseball, archery, volley ball, and many other sports have filled our days with zestful thrill of clean hard competition. Games played according to the Founder code of sportsmanship build and uplift in a fourfold way.

"The greatest thing in our 1941 athletic program was its sportsmanship. The outstanding characteristic of YB Camp competition is that the fellows never flinch but always hit the line hard. I like to think that the following definition of sportsmanship fits the YB athletic program: 'A good sport is one who in competition is always fair and generous, a gracious winner but a graceful loser.' Boys, keep on playing that game hard this winter and then as summer rolls around, meet us at Miniwanca ready for the finest vacation a fellow could desire!"

HOWDY, FELLOWS!

As I write this in a little time out from the books, I have vivid memories of Tent 3 the best tent in camp. It was "messier" than any other tent, for which I assume full responsibility, being too chicken-hearted and impressionable to lay down the law after its occupants had "worked on me". But it was probably the only tent whose leader had his swimming trunks bisected by a thrown axe or other bizarre accident.

Some interesting observations on the waterfront were: Nolting's graceful plunge into the drink from the rear end of the war canoe, Don Swanson's red burr head which just couldn't be missed on or off a buddy call, and the cold, shivering, big and little fellows during the swimming meet while the warm leaders stood about in big sweaters and coats while it snowed (and I do think it snowed).

Speaking of the swim meet and cold weather reminds me of the physiotherapy warm water pool here in Cleveland for crippled and disabled people. You fellows should be thankful for well, strong bodies and good minds, and that you can move and act as you please. In the clinics I see wreck after wreck of humanity all seeking help -- so take in a little of the lessons you learned at camp and keep those bodies and minds of yours in condition to do something of real worth. It's more fun that way, than to be crippled both mentally and physically.

I hope to see you all at camp next summer. Have a big Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year!

Cleveland, Ohio

RALPH LOHREY
Aquatic Director

BEFORE THE TEMPERATURE DROPS

and the snow puts her white cap over the beautiful fall scenery that now is at its height, I would like to extend my thoughts to Founder campers. Though we are all miles away from each other and seemingly have our own lives to live, we are surprisingly enough still in a camp, and you and I are the leaders in that camp. All our acquaintances and neighbors are the campers, no matter what color and creed they may have. It's a camp in which you and I have the job of teaching others the Christian way of living that we learned at Miniwanca.

So, no matter how many miles may be between us, we are still united to the one great purpose we learned together. We must all be good leaders in our responsibility and keep ourselves a fine example to all men.

Minneapolis, Minnesota

SAM COOK
Nature Study Department

HI THERE, FOUNDER CAMPERS!

It doesn't seem possible that so much time has passed since camp closed, does it? Why it only seems a few days ago when we were having so much fun together at Miniwanca -- swimming, boating, playing tribal games, and attending interest groups. I even wouldn't mind having my bed tipped over again if I could be back at camp now.

Speaking of interest groups, I hope you fellows enjoyed working in the crafthouse as much as I did. I've always enjoyed making things and I hope that I passed on a part of that enjoyment to you. Did you know that many of the things you made were never before attempted in the crafthouse? How did your father like that braided belt you brought home to him? And I'll bet your mother found many uses for that big salad bowl you finished up so nicely for her. I was glad to see so many of you originate your ideas and work them into your projects -- new types of billfolds, ash trays, book-ends, and all other useful articles that you made.

I'm a sophomore this year at Knox College and I'm enjoying it very much. I'm working on the business staff of the Knox Theatre now, and along with my regular school work, I'm being kept pretty busy. I hope to enter the School of Architecture at the University of Illinois in the near future, so I am taking courses that I'll need for that line of work -- physics, art, lots of math, and a mechanical drawing course.

At Miniwanca we have all received some wonderful principles and ideals. Here's hoping that each one of you will use these ideals as a foundation for your way of living, and may you have the best of luck during the coming year and throughout life. I'd like to hear from each one of you fellows out there in the different parts of the country -- just what you are doing and what you plan to do.

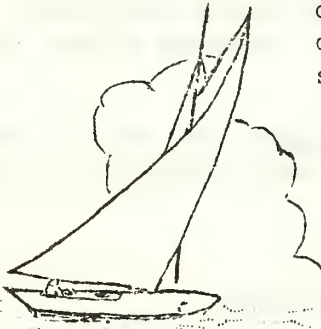
Galesburg, Illinois

"CHUCK" BOYDSTUN
Handcraft Department

NEWS FROM ONE OF UNCLE SAM'S DRAFTEES

More than a month ago the government won and I went to work for Uncle Sam. Living the life of a straight draftee, I have been reliving many of the things we meet in the camp schedule such as good food, taps, inspection (much tougher than at camp!), morning exercises, hikes, and so on. Already it has me longing to get back to Miniwanca again. I know this homesickness will go right on increasing through the year until next summer when I'll really be missing Miniwanca on a large scale.

And speaking of missing things, maybe we don't always realize just how important the things we do at camp are to our lives. Take boating for instance. It's tons of fun, but have you ever stopped to realize just what it does for you? For one thing you are constantly acquiring new skills and the ability to handle yourself safely about water. Another thing, you're learning about how some of the laws of nature work because many of them are at work in the sails and paddles and in the way boats float. And as you master them you are mastering the laws. Then too, you are working with your mates about the deck and learning to get along with them. That's important. And there are many other valuable things besides these to be found in your camp work. So look out for them next summer and think over your past summer with that in mind. And the best of luck to all of you.



Camp Grant, Illinois

JIM ORWIG
Boatcraft Department

GREETINGS, CAMPERS!

I'm now up in the hills of New Hampshire at Dartmouth College, anxiously waiting for it to snow so I can go skiing. I'm still occasionally emptying sand from my clothes, wishing it were summer again and I were back at Miniwanca. And now for a review of last summer's Fine Arts Dept., which takes in many of the interest groups.

Most of the campers who played musical instruments joined the military band directed by George Schaefer. There seemed to be an abundance of trumpets in camp -- as many as three horns being concentrated in one Darer Unit tent. Schaefer also organized a jazz band which was dubbed the "Miniwanca Grooms" by some of the camp wits.

The camp newspaper, better known as the Dunes Dispatch, proved several times that it was always on the ball with its nose for news. All in all, five "sensational" issues were published by the Miniwanca press. Most noteworthy were the anonymous columns which passed under the title of "Purely Personal" and the "Who's Who at Miniwanca Poll". Although there have been some hints of fraud in the "Who's Who Poll", we can assure you that everything was on the up and up.

Fine work was also carried on in the photography interest group under the direction of Jack Neyer. Although these candid camera fiends necessarily spent much time in the dark room, they did manage to see a little sunlight once in awhile.

In the field of dramatics, two one-act plays were presented. Several Pre-Senior boys did an excellent job in presenting "The Crime in the Clubhouse" with Dick Johns as the corpse. Loy Ledbetter, Laurie White, Hugh Kerwin, Gordon Henderson, and Jim Richards showed real talent in portraying their roles. Several of the younger campers also showed great promise in dramatic work and will get their chance to prove their merit in a play next year.

Hanover, New Hampshire

"FLASH" KERWIN
Fine Arts Department

FROM A 1941 CAMPER-LEADER

A camper-leader is just what the title implies -- a camper and a leader. A boy who is too old for a camper and too young for a leader holds this position. Last year I had the privilege of being a camper-leader, and it was a lot of fun mixed in with some seriousness. There is a certain responsibility, for you must be able to supervise a group of boys in the absence of their leader. In this way you come in contact with every boy in camp and really have a great deal of pleasure in participating in their different games.

Several years ago the camp erected a leaders' retreat where the leaders could congregate to swap tales and play records. During the past few summers the camper-leaders have been allowed to go there, and they really have a good time and become better acquainted with their superiors. Then added to all of the leaders' privileges are the ones which are received from a camper's standpoint, such as the Point Sable hike, the morning dips, the cleaning up of the tents, and many others. These events are probably enjoyed more by the leaders than by the campers.

Next summer I'll have graduated from this position and hope to be a leader at camp. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you old campers there when we take our first dip on Tuesday morning.

Durham, North Carolina

"JOLLY" ED CUNLIFF

HI-YA, FELLOWS!

Sounds like Steiger, doesn't it? Well, it's not, it's me! But if Steiger is reading this, this is to let him know I'm going to beat him in checkers next summer.

You know, I'm listening to the radio with one ear and the noise of a city (ahem) with the other. I just heard some military music that reminded me of some of our leaders in the army. Hello, Pvt. Orwig (Matey, to you) -- you too, Lt. Oliver, U.S. Marines.

How are you coming along? Pretty well, no doubt, because you've had some good training at camp. But so have we all, and we're putting it to good use in our every day activities at home and at school.

As for me, I'm studying, working in Student Government, and on the Sunday School Council, but I still have time to play and socialize. Well, I'll see you all at camp next summer. Don't forget to come back . . . don't forget to come back . . . Min-i-wan-ca . . . Min-i-wan-ca!

Huntington, West Virginia

DON RICE
Pre-Senior Unit

REMEMBER THE HIKE TO POINT SABLE

and the trip through the lighthouse . . . the swell supper and how we had Vespers on the beach around the fire . . . the singing after Vespers . . . the trouble some fellows had in going to sleep until they found out about "hip holes" . . . sleeping under the stars and seeing the lighthouse beams shining at night? Yessir, I'll be plenty glad to get back to Miniwanca!

I've been seeing Allan Millikan a lot since we came back from camp -- we're in the same classes and the same scout troop. I've also seen Dave Millikan and Bill Wardman since camp.

I'm hoping all of you Doers are planning to be back at Miniwanca next summer. I'm looking forward to seeing you all.

Ashland, Kentucky

BILL SEATON, President
Doer Unit Council

HELLO, ALL YOU MINIWANCA CAMPERS!

Do you remember last summer, you Darers, when we were working on our Indian Village . . . when we marched off into the forest and made the woods resound with the ring of axes and cries of "timber-r-r" . . . when we came back carrying heavy logs to the stockade? Remember the rush for the canteens and the shirts lying all over the place? Can't you just think back and picture the whole scene -- boys going off into the woods and bringing back heavy logs, the stockade slowly going up, the fellows working on the Wigwams, the canteens hung against the trees and shelters, and last but not least, P.M. Knight surveying the whole thing?

Those were great times -- the Indian Village, the hike to Point Sable, the track meets, the swimming meets, the hike to Jackson Steps, the sham battle in the Black Forest, the hot tribal competition, and the everyday activities, interest groups, boating, etc. Yes, those were great times, and I hope I'll see all of you next summer when we will again be at Camp Miniwanca.

I'm now in Wake Forest, North Carolina -- a small college town. I'm in the eighth grade here, and I sing in the junior choir at church. I like it here a lot but I'm still homesick for Shanghai. I wish some of you would write me -- my P.O. box is No. 377.

Wake Forest, North Carolina

GEORGE CARVER, President
Darer Unit Council



"HE'S GOT THE STUFF THAT IT TAKES!"

Ever heard anybody say something like that? Sure you have, and you've probably said it yourself about some fellow or leader who made a good record or did things the way you like to see them done. It's a great compliment to have someone say something like that about you. A boy has a right to feel proud when honest and sincere compliments come his way. And no real boy wants anybody to hand him a pat on the back when he doesn't deserve it.

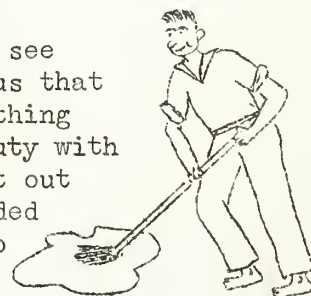
Good living -- straight shooting, clean thinking, good conversation, a reputation for being honest, balanced fourfold living, and all those good habits which we emphasized this summer at Miniwanca -- if practiced in one's everyday life soon attracts attention and folks begin to say, "There's a fellow who's got the stuff that it takes!"

Founder fellow, get the habit of doing things well. Cut out the shoddy stuff. And don't be satisfied with a half-way job -- take pride in top performance. If you are asked to render a bit of service for someone, jump at the chance and do it happily and without "crabbing". Soon folks will be saying of you, "There's a real fellow -- he's got what it takes!"

If there is a job to be done -- chores at home, studies, an errand to be run, grass to be cut, leaves to rake up, snow to be shoveled, a committee meeting to attend -- jump in with a smile and DO IT RIGHT AWAY. Get a reputation for thoroughness and dependability, and soon folks will say, "It's a pleasure to know that fellow -- he's got what it takes!"

If courage is needed -- courage to say NO when NO should be said, courage to stand pat on your principles and tell the gang to go jump in the lake if they try to get you to do something that you know you shouldn't do -- pull out of that old Founder bag the fine examples of courage that you learned in camp, in Ideals class, at Vespers, in the morning breakfast talks, and in your daily camp doings . . . and then stand foursquare for THE BEST, and again folks will soon be saying of you, "What a whale of a boy he is -- he's got the stuff that it takes!"

Mrs. Orwig and I went up to the Army Camp the other Sunday to see Squid. He's a buck private in Uncle Sam's Army. Squid told us that he had made up his mind to always go them one better in everything that he is told to do. One day he was detailed to barracks duty with instructions to sweep out the center of the room. Squid swept out the center of the room and then got a mop and pail and proceeded to mop out the whole works. Squid's got something there -- Go 'em one better! He says, "The Army's got something!"



You do it too, Founder fellow. You've had good camp training -- now use it! Be a Founder that we all can be proud of -- don't let Camp Miniwanca down. Always remember, "My own self at my very best all the time", and so, folks will say of you -- "He's got the stuff that it takes!"

Go to it --



Orwig

P. G. ORWIG, Director
The American Youth Foundation

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

The American Youth Foundation
3930 Lindell Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri

THANKSGIVING GREETINGS

